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SINGAPORE  
(Based on NIE 69-59)

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- I. Although long term outlook gloomy drastic change in present situation may not occur during next two years. Current trend to left will probably continue. Good chance extremist wing of PAP will not find it opportune to seize control government present time.
- II. Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew is 36 years old, highly intelligence<sup>t</sup>, skillful lawyer and politician.
  - A. English educated, with a brilliant record at Cambridge.
  - B. Appointed to Legislative Council 1954; shortly after took lead in organizing left wing People's Action Party (PAP), now governing party of Singapore.
  - C. In 1957 Lee and moderate supporters lost control of party to pro-Communist element and unable reassert leadership until former government arrested five key extremist PAP leaders.
  - D. Lee subsequently has tightened control over party machinery, but party remains extremely vulnerable to pro-Communists who are deeply entrenched.
  - E. Lee's political philosophy is obscured by wide range of statements; some of very radical statements probably made to gain public support, maintain working relationship extremist wing party.

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- G. Fluent English speaker--relatively poor Chinese makes close relationship Chinese speaking masses difficult.
- III. Lim Chin Siong, top pro-Communist leader in left wing of PAP, is 28 years old.
- A. Highly intelligent and effective political leader.
  - B. Arrested for subversion in 1956 and not released until PAP came to power in June 1959.
  - q C. Main area of influence is among trade unions. Lim and associates now believed to control organized blue collar workers, Singapore's most militant labor segment.
  - D. Lim not a rabble rouser, but soft spoken skillful operator; major assets--youth, wide popular appeal, jail record and record of agitation against British.
  - E. Lim is hero of Chinese youth and closely identified with Chinese speaking masses.
- IV. Current trends.
- A. Trend to left will probably continue over next two years.
  - B. Main efforts government likely to be devoted to achieving short term economic gains to hold public support and consolidating influence over wide range political, cultural and economic activities.
  - C. Lim Chin Siong will probably develop sufficient strength and successfully to challenge moderate leadership of PAP.
  - D. Despite this capability, extremists may decide to exercise power indirectly for next two years, restrained by:

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1. Adverse effect of "radical" rule on conservative Federation of Malaya and prospects for merger of Singapore with Malaya.
  2. Risk that extremist take-over would provoke British revocation of Constitution and resumption of direct rule.
  3. Desire avoid responsibility for probable worsening of Singapore economic situation during next two years.
- E. On balance--present balance of forces likely to continue for next two years, although there will be steady increase in extremist ability influence government.

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